## **Child and Family Services Review Systemic Factors**

As a part of the federal Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) process there are seven Systemic Factors assessed to determine the child welfare agency's ability to achieve positive outcomes for children. DFPS is seeking stakeholder input on four of the seven factors: Case Review System, Service Array, Agency Responsiveness to the Community, and Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment and Retention, which will include a review of training requirements and standards currently in place for foster and adoptive parents.

A facilitated stakeholder meeting to discuss Foster/Adoption Licensing, Recruitment and Retention, including Foster and Adoptive Family Training will be held on the following date and time:

Date of Meeting: January 23, 2014

Location: Thompson Conference Center, Room 3.102, Austin, TX

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

## **Systemic Factor**

Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment and Retention examines how well the foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention system functions statewide. Also, whether state standards are applied to all licensed or approved foster family homes or child care institutions receiving title IV-B or IV-E funds.

The state is required to provide qualitative and quantitative data or information that evidences that the state standards are applied equally to all licensed or approved foster family homes or child care institutions.

Although not a systemic factor, DFPS would also like to use the stakeholder process to gather information about Foster and Adoptive Family Training.

## **Federal Performance Indicators**

- The State has implemented standards for foster family homes and child care institutions which are reasonably in accord with recommended national standards.
  The standards are applied to all licensed or
- The standards are applied to all licensed or approved foster family homes or child care institutions receiving Title IV-E or IV-B funds.
- 3. The State complies with Federal requirements for criminal background clearances as related to licensing or approving foster care and adoptive placements, and has in place a case planning process that includes provisions for addressing the safety of foster care and adoptive placements for children.
- The State has in place a process for ensuring the diligent recruitment of potential foster and adoptive families that reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of children in the State for whom foster and adoptive homes are needed.
- 5. The State has in place a process for the effective use of cross-jurisdictional resources to facilitate timely adoptive or

## Texas' Licensing, Recruitment, Retention, Training

- 1. Chapter 42 of the Texas Human Resources Code requires DFPS to regulate child care and child-placing activities in Texas. Rules, known as the Minimum Standards for Agency Foster Family Homes and Child Placing Agencies that license foster homes (both public and private) have been adopted and are used to determine whether a family can meet the needs of children in foster care. DFPS is also a certified Child Placing Agency and adheres to the same minimum standards as all other child-placing agencies.
- 2. The Minimum Standards are applied to all licensed child care institutions and foster care providers.
- 3. All foster, adoptive and kinship families (individuals age 14 and over) participate in criminal history and central registry checks prior to the home being verified. In addition, prior to verification, all adults in the home over the age of 18 must submit fingerprints for a National Crime Information Center check, which is completed by the FBI. All background checks are completed every 2 years and when circumstances change.
- 4. The State has a variety of initiatives designed to increase placement options to better match the needs of each individual child; among which are: Foster Care Redesign, The Diligent Recruitment Grant, The Texas Adoption Resource Exchange (TARE), The Advisory

permanent placements for waiting children.	Committee on Promoting Adoption of Minority Children,
	Fostering Connections and Permanency Care
	Assistance.

5. DFPS works with the following organizations to recruit foster and adoptive parents: TARE, ICPC, AdoptUsKids and the DFPS Extranet posting to contract agencies. CPS coordinates and supports statewide recruitment/retention activities and information across the State in a consistent manner and builds upon marketing research from other states in recruiting families.